

## REMARKS

1. In response to the final Office Action mailed July 01, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 21-75 were last presented in the application. In the outstanding Office Action Claims 21, 23, 45, 46, 48, 70 and 71 were rejected and claims 22, 24-44, 47, 49-69 and 72-75 were objected to. By the foregoing Amendments, claims 45, 46, 47, 55, and 59 have been amended, claims 21-44, 67 and 70-75 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 76-94 have been added. Thus, upon entry of this paper, claims 45-66, 68, 69, and 76-94 will be pending in this application. Of these 43 claims, three (3) claims (claims 45, 76 and 86) are independent. These Amendments are believed not to introduce new matter and their entry is respectfully requested.

### *Art of Record*

2. Applicant acknowledges receipt of the form PTO-1449 filed by Applicant on April 15, 2004, which has been initialed by the Examiner indicating consideration of the references cited therein.

### *Allowable Subject Matter*

3. Claims 22, 24-44, 47, 49-69 and 72-75 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

4. Applicant has amended independent claim 45 to include the limitations of claim 67, and claim 67 has been canceled. Since amended claim 45 now includes the limitation of claim 67, its base claim (claim 45) and any intervening claims (none), amended claim 45 is in condition for allowance. Claims 46-66, 68 and 69, which depend from claim 45 are allowable for at least the same reasons.

5. Applicant has added new independent claim 76. Because claim 76 includes the essential limitations of a claim which has been objected to (claim 47), its base claim (claim 45) and any intervening claims (none), new independent claim 76 is in condition for allowance. Claims 77-84, which depend from new independent claim 76, are allowable for at least the same reasons.

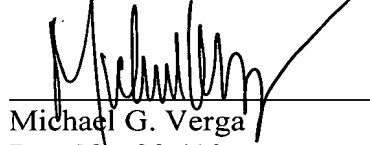
6. Applicant has added new independent claim 86. Because claim 86 includes the essential limitations of a claim which has been objected to (claim 68), its base claim (claim 45) and any intervening claims (none), new independent claim 86 is in condition for allowance. Claims 87-94, which depend from new independent claim 86, are allowable for at least the same reasons.

7. Claims 21-44 and 70-75 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, thereby rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

***Conclusion***

8. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael G. Verga', is written over a horizontal line.

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September 1, 2004